

to file an appeal, and the law judge may also reopen the case for good cause on notice to the parties.

(b) A law judge may not reconsider his initial decision once the time for appealing to the Board from the initial decision has expired or once an appeal with the Board has been filed. However, a timely request for reconsideration by the law judge of his decision, filed before an appeal to the Board has been taken, will stay the deadline for appealing to the Board until 10 days after the date the law judge serves his decision on the request. For the purpose of this section, a request for reconsideration submitted on the same date as a notice of appeal will be deemed to have been filed first.

[59 FR 59049, Nov. 15, 1994]

§ 821.48 Briefs and oral argument.

(a) *Appeal briefs.* Each appeal must be perfected within 50 days after an oral initial decision has been rendered, or 30 days after service of a written initial decision, by filing with the Board and serving on the other party a brief in support of the appeal. Appeals may be dismissed by the Board on its own initiative or on motion of the other party, in cases where a party who has filed a notice of appeal fails to perfect his appeal by filing a timely brief.

(b) *Contents of appeal brief.* Each appeal brief shall set forth in detail the objections to the initial decision, and shall state whether such objections are related to alleged errors in the law judge's findings of fact and conclusions or alleged errors in his order. It shall also state the reasons for such objections and the relief requested.

(c) *Waiver of objections on appeal.* Any error contained in the initial decision which is not objected to may be deemed to have been waived. Where any objection is based upon evidence of record, such objection need not be considered by the Board unless specific record citations to the pertinent evidence are furnished in the appeal brief.

(d) *Reply brief.* A brief in reply to the appeal brief may be filed by the other party within 30 days after the appeal brief has been served upon him. A copy of the reply brief shall be served upon the party who has appealed from the initial decision. Where the reply brief

relies upon evidence of record, specific record citations to the pertinent evidence shall be furnished in the reply brief.

(e) *Other briefs.* Subsequent to brief filing, parties may file citations to supplemental authorities. This procedure may be used only for identifying new, relevant decisions, not to correct omissions in briefing or to respond to a reply. No argument may be included in such filings. Parties shall submit, with any decision, a reference to the page of the brief to which the decision pertains. Any response shall be filed within 10 days and shall be similarly limited. With this exception, no further briefs may be filed, except with specific permission of the Board and on a showing of good cause.

(f) *Oral argument.* Oral argument before the Board will normally not be held in proceedings under this part. However, when need therefor appears, the Board may permit oral argument, either on its own initiative or on motion of a party.

[40 FR 30248, July 17, 1975, as amended at 49 FR 28250, July 11, 1984, 59 FR 59049, Nov. 15, 1994; 60 FR 25620, May 12, 1995]

§ 821.49 Issues on appeal.

(a) On appeal, the Board will consider only the following issues:

(1) Are the findings of fact each supported by a preponderance of reliable, probative, and substantial evidence?

(2) Are conclusions made in accordance with law, precedent, and policy?

(3) Are the questions on appeal substantial?

(4) Have any prejudicial errors occurred?

(b) If the Board determines that the law judge erred in any respect or that his order in his initial decision should be changed, the Board may make any necessary findings and may issue an order in lieu of the law judge's order or may remand the case for such purposes as the Board may deem necessary. The Board on its own initiative may raise any issue, the resolution of which it deems important to a proper disposition of the proceedings. If necessary or appropriate, a reasonable opportunity